

PLANTS SHUT DOWN OR CUT WORK TIME IN MANY STATES

Four Thousand Idle in Oranges
—Curtailed General in
Connecticut.

The number of idle in the West Orange and Silver Lake plants of the Thomas A. Edison affiliated industries today was 1,300. The reductions, according to an announcement of the concern, was "in keeping with the general business trend throughout the country." Slackening demand for phonographs led to the laying off of a large number of men in the Brunswick-Balke-Collender plant in Iowa as well as in the Edison plants in Jersey.

"A light present demand for the product," was the explanation at the Brunswick-Balke-Collender plant in Dubuque, which was closed, throwing out the 800 men remaining of the 1,300 employed a year ago.

Further retrenchment came in the Orange district with the closing of the last of the hat factories there. Altogether, 2,500 operatives are idle, and the manufacturers are seeking a readjustment of wage schedules so that they can resume.

"We can't sell hats at the prices made necessary by present costs of production," they are telling their men.

The four divisions of the American Thread Company in Holyoke, Mass., will go on a schedule of one and two

days a week beginning Monday. About two-thirds of the 2,000 employees will be on the one-day schedule, and the remainder on two days. At present they are working three and two days a week.

Haywood Brothers and Wakefield Company, chair manufacturers, of Wakefield, Mass., announced a bonus ranging from 1 to 5 per cent, to its 600 operatives. The bonus is 1 per cent less than last year, but a higher wage basis will make the distribution larger.

A policy opposed to any marked reduction of wages was announced at Spokane, Wash., by J. C. H. Reynolds, Secretary-Manager of the Associated Industries of the Inland Empire, following a conference of members representing industrial establishments of Eastern Washington, Oregon and Northern Idaho. The eight-hour day will be adhered to, wages in lumber mills "will not be materially reduced," and wages in the woods will remain at 50 cents an hour, it was said. Shutdowns of plants will be as short as possible.

The associated industries will condemn any individual employer who attempts to exploit the present surplus of labor," he declared. A bulletin on labor conditions in Connecticut issued at Hartford yesterday by the State Manufacturers' Association notes evidence of "further curtailment in production in Connecticut industries." There is no material change in the textile situation. The decrease in production affects chiefly the foundries, arms and munition factories and hardware plants. A general increase in the ranks of the unemployed is seen in most cities.

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Sizes 6 to 10 years

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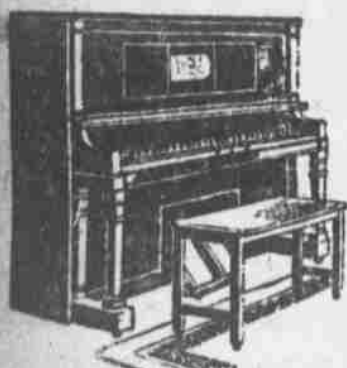
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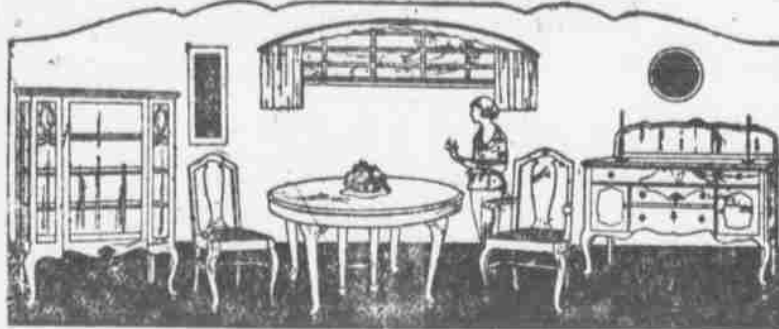
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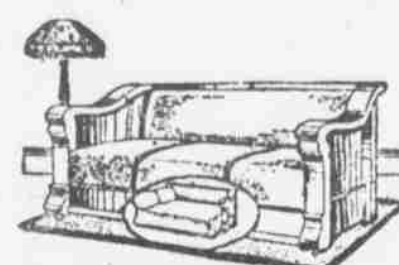
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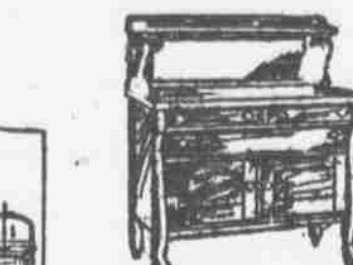
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A Sofa by Day
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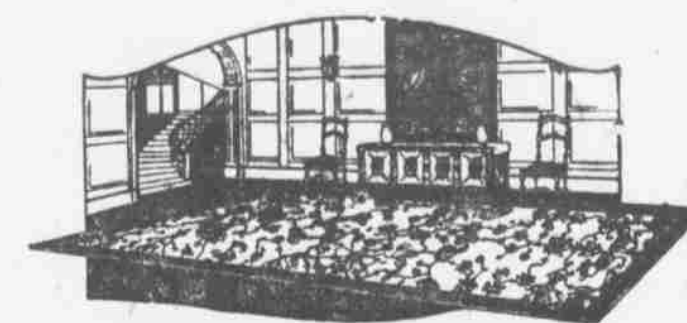
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